

CLAIMS

1. An electronic signalling system, comprising
 - a DC power source,
 - a power drain,
 - a cable interconnecting the source and drain, including at least two cores,
 - a signal generator, and
 - a signal receiver;

the signal generator being adapted to modulate the power output of the source in dependence on the signal to be transmitted;

the signal receiver comprising a comparator adapted to compare the instantaneous power output of the source with a historical average power output thereby to detect the signal.
2. A signalling system according to claim 1 in which modulation of the power output comprises reduction of the output by at least 50%.
3. A signalling system according to claim 1 in which modulation of the power output comprises reduction of the output by substantially 100%.
4. A signalling system according to any preceding claim in which the power output is modulated such that switching takes place over a finite time.
5. A signalling system according to any preceding claim in which the signal receiver determines the historical average by providing the instantaneous power output to an electrical energy store.

6. A signalling system according to claim 5 in which the energy store is a capacitor.
7. A signalling system according to claim 5 or claim 6 in which the power drain is supplied with power by the energy store.
8. A signalling system according to any preceding claim in which a resistive short circuit is placed across the at least two cores of the cable.
9. A signalling system according to claim 8 in which a resistive short circuit is provided adjacent both the signal generator and the signal receiver.
10. A signalling system substantially as herein described with reference to and/or as illustrated in the accompanying Figures.
11. An elevator apparatus comprising an elevator car supplied with power from a fixed source, including a signalling system according to any preceding claim adapted to send data signals to the car.
12. A signalling method in which a power signal is modulated with a data signal such that the power level is significantly reduced on a periodic basis, the power being fed to a receiver unit, the demodulation steps comprising taking a historic average power level and comparing that to the instantaneous power level.
13. A signalling method according to claim 12 in which the power level is reduced by at least 50%.

14. A signalling method according to claim 12 in which the power level is reduced by substantially 100%.
15. A signalling method substantially as herein described with reference to and/or as illustrated in the accompanying Figures.